

Town of Needham

Presentation to Select Board on Green Communities Designation

Prepared by:

Cecilia Simchak
Carys Lustig
Kate Fitzpatrick
Nick Hill
Beth Greenblatt

September 24, 2019

Criterion 1: As-of-Right Siting

- Requirement: As-of-Right Siting requires the allowed use without unreasonable regulation. Development may proceed without the need for a special permit, variance, amendment, or other discretionary approval. As-of-right development may be subject to non-discretionary site plan review to determine conformance with local zoning bylaws as well as state and federal law. Designated locations include:
 - □ renewable or alternative energy generating facilities,
 - □ renewable or alternative energy research and development (R&D) facilities
 - □ renewable or alternative energy manufacturing facilities
- * Town Compliance: The Town's Zoning Bylaws allow for As-of-Right siting as follows:

USE	Green Community Type	Industrial	Industrial 1	New England Business Center District	Mixed Use 128 District
Zoning Bylaw Reference		3.2.1	3.2.1	3.2.4	3.2.6
Laboratory or place where scientific experimental research is conducted not including genetic or biological research laboratory.	Research & Development	>	√		
Medical laboratory or laboratory engaged in scientific research and development, and experimental and testing activities including, but not limited to, the fields of biology, genetics, chemistry, electronics, engineering, geology, medicine and physics, which may include the development of mock-ups and prototypes.	Research & Development			>	V
Light non-nuisance manufacturing providing that all resulting cinders, dust, flashing, fumes, gases, odors, smoke, noise, vibration, refuse matter, vapor, and heat are effectively confined in a building or are disposed in a manner so as not to create a nuisance or hazard to safety or health	Manufacturing	>	V	>	V

Criterion 2: Expedited Permitting

- Requirement: The Town must adopt an expedited application and permitting process under which as-of-right energy facilities (criterion #1) may be sited within the municipality and which shall not exceed one (1) year from the date of initial application to the date of final approval.
- Town Compliance: Site Plan Review is provided for in Section 7.4 of the Town's Zoning Bylaw.
 - New Construction Projects sized up to 10,000 square feet of allowable permitted use are allowed by right and must apply for a Minor Project Site Plan Review, which is similar to a typical Site Plan Review in other municipalities. Such projects require comments from the Planning Board to the Building Inspector prior to the issuance of the building permit.
 - New Construction Projects of allowable permitted use sized 10,000 or more square feet, or involve an increase in gross floor area of 5,000 square feet, or the creation of 25 or more new off-street parking spaces, must apply for a Major Project Site Plan Special Permit. Such projects require approval by the Planning Board.
 - □ Needham complies with the statutory requirements of MGL Chapter 40A which rarely extends established timeframe of action on the Special Permit beyond five (5) months.

Criterion 3: Energy Reduction Plan ("ERP")

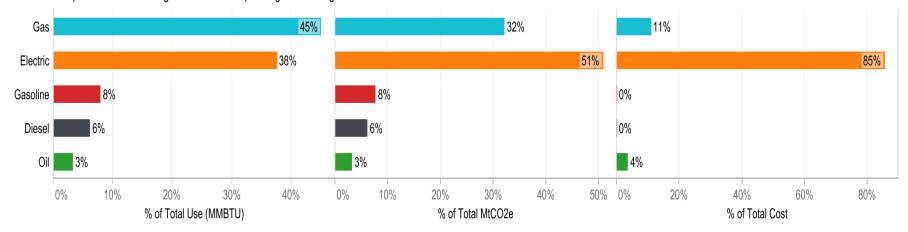
- Requirement: The Town is required to accomplish the following:
 - □ Establish an Energy Use Baseline
 - □ Develop and implement a comprehensive program designed to reduce this baseline by 20% within the 5-year period following the Baseline Year
- ❖ <u>Town Compliance</u>: The Town has developed an Energy Reduction Plan designed to achieve 20.2% energy savings reductions through the implementation of completed and planned capital energy efficiency and infrastructure upgrades.
 - □ Calculated savings projected: 17.2%
 - □ Additional savings projected: 3%

Criterion 3: Energy Reduction Plan - Baseline

Overall Use, Emissions and Cost Dashboard

Overall Use, Emissions and Cost by Fuel as a Percent of Total

Emissions factors updated 1/4/2012 using Massachusetts-specific greenhouse gas emssions factors.



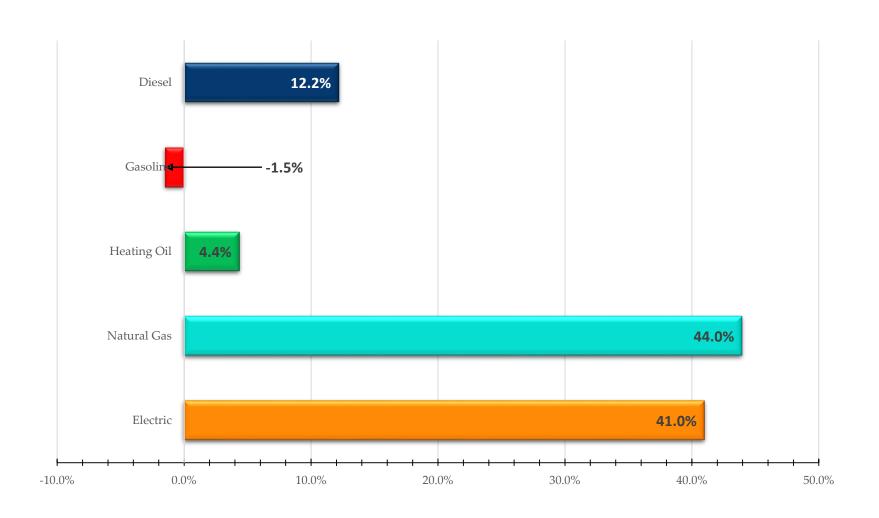
Criterion 3: ERP Overview

- Baseline Year Fiscal Year 2018
- Projected Energy Savings Represents 20.2% of the FY 2018 Baseline
 - □ 17.2% Calculated savings
 - □ 3% Additional savings less easily quantified, including Comprehensive Audits and Behavior/Training strategies.

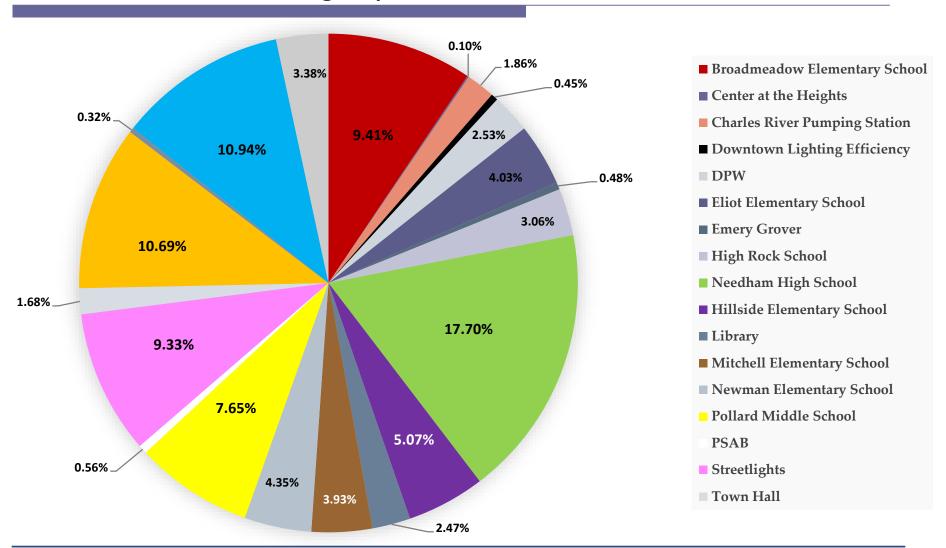
FY 2018 - BASELINE

-								
	MMBTU BASELINE - FISCAL YEAR 2018							
	Electric	Natural Gas	Heating Oil	Gasoline	Diesel	Total		
Various	5,032	2,309	0	9,076	7,024	23,441		
Building	28,967	46,984	3,671	0	0	79,622		
Open Space	92	0	0	0	0	92		
Street/Traffic Lights	17	0	0	0	0	17		
Water/Sewer	8,829	2,308	0	0	0	11,137		
TOTAL BASELINE	42,937	51,601	3,671	9,076	7,024	114,309		
	MMBTU SAVINGS							
Total ERP Savings	9,444	10,124	1,004	-347	2,810	23,035		
Calculated Savings	7,908	8,318	974	-347	2,810	19,662		
Additional Savings	1,537	1,806	30	0	0	3,373		
Total ERP Savings as % of Baseline	22.0%	19.6%	27.4%	-3.8%	40.0%	20.2%		

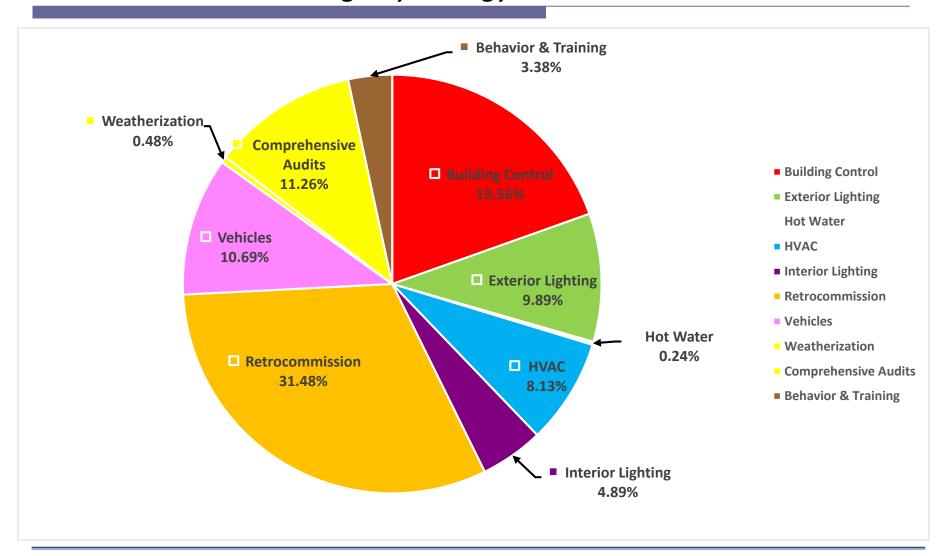
Criterion 3: ERP Savings by Energy Type



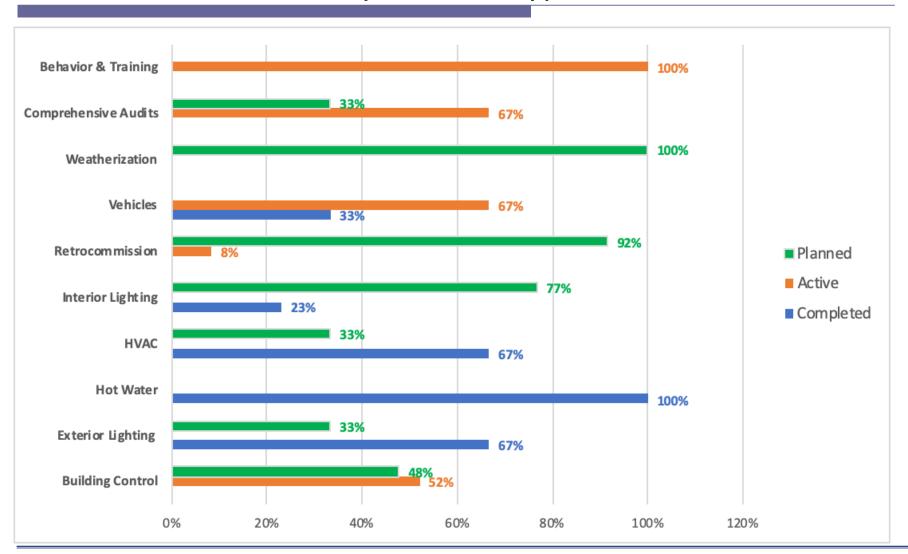
Criterion 3: ERP Savings by Location



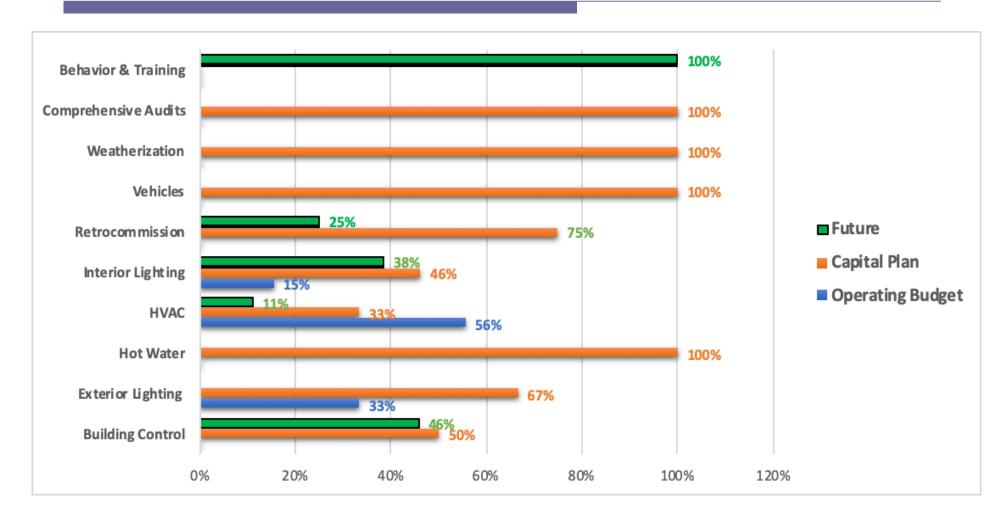
Criterion 3: ERP Savings By Energy Measure



Criterion 3: ERP Status by Measure Type



Criterion 3: ERP Anticipated Funding Sources by Measure Type



Criterion 4: Fuel-Efficient Vehicles

- * <u>Requirement</u>: The Town is required to purchase only fuel-efficient vehicles for municipal and school use whenever such vehicles are commercially available and practicable.
- Town Compliance: The Town and School Department will consider adopting a fuel-efficient vehicle policy consistent with the requirements of the Green Communities Program.

Criterion 5: Stretch Code Adoption

- Requirement: The Town must require all new residential construction over 3,000 square feet and all new commercial and industrial real estate construction to minimize, to the extent feasible, the life-cycle cost of the facility by utilizing energy efficiency, water conservation and other renewable or alternative energy technologies.
- Town Compliance: On May 13, 2019, at its Annual Town Meeting, under Article 49, Needham Town Meeting Members voted to amend its General By-Laws by adding the Stretch Energy Code for the purpose of regulating the design and construction of buildings for the effective use of energy, pursuant to Appendix 115.AAA of the Massachusetts Building Code, 780 CMR, the "Energy Stretch Code", including future additions, amendments, or modifications thereto.